

forward, with feelings of mixed confidence and scepticism, to the future. It certainly is delightful to see the *Journal A. M. A.* actually waking up to the fact that it can no longer enjoy those somnolent dreams of megalomania that permit it to ignore the "undignified" things—unethical advertisements. If the Association is to maintain its position and hold the allegiance of the component bodies, it must take an active part in these questions that are of vital import to the profession, and through its *Journal* it must speak of things that are not abstractly scientific. This, we are glad to see, seems to have been appreciated at last.

Once more has a physician, realizing full well the danger and the risk of his calling, laid down his life for his patient. Particularly sad is the death of Dr. Albert B. Craig, **A SAD DEATH.** of Philadelphia, one of the subeditors of *American Medicine*. He was one of the most promising of the younger physicians of Philadelphia, and had been married but 5 months. He was called to attend a patient suffering from the fulminant type of cerebrospinal meningitis, which has been for some time epidemic in the East. The patient was without friends and Dr. Craig devoted himself almost continuously to attendance upon the unfortunate sufferer. The result was disastrous. Ere long Dr. Craig diagnosed the onset of symptoms of the disease in himself, and with thought for the outcome, arranged his affairs and prepared to die. His last words might well be taken to heart by everyone of us, for truly, we, as physicians, may say, "We know not the day nor the hour." "I am neither ashamed nor afraid to die."

The reports of the various officers of the Society, presented at the recent meeting, show that the Society is in a very healthy condition. Business aggregating over \$12,000.00 was transacted without loss and the publications were materially enhanced in value during the year. The *JOURNAL* has increased 12 pages in size and must shortly be again increased. The Register now includes Oregon and Washington, which has been found to be a very useful addition during the year past. On April 1st there were 1,664 members, but at the time of the present writing there are approximately 1,700. The Society shows a good healthy growth, due to the fact that almost every county society in the state has increased somewhat in membership during the year. Prosecution of illegal practitioners has been undertaken all over the state, and in the vast majority of cases, the result has been conviction, or the illegal chap has run away. Two new county societies were organized during the past year, and arrangements are in the making for the organization of several more during the summer months. The full text of the various reports will appear in the next number of the *JOURNAL*, and from them it will be evi-

dent that the business of the Society has been transacted in a businesslike way, and that the further development suggested is well within the limits of what may safely be undertaken. Owing to the distance from the place of publication, a full report of the meeting in April may not be published till the June number is issued, but the more important matters will be found in this number. It may be interesting to our members to note that their *JOURNAL* refused to accept 6 pages of advertising which did not comply with the rules adopted by the A. M. A. in 1895 and 1900, in spite of the fact that these things are being advertised in the pages of the Association *Journal* in direct and open violation of these same rules.

With the present issue, the *JOURNAL* begins the publication of an essay by Lange on the subject of tendon transplantation. The opinion of those whose special attention has been devoted to this particular field of surgery, is to the effect that the paper of Lange is by far the best presentation of the subject yet printed. It has not appeared in English, up to the present time, and we therefore take pleasure in giving it space. The translator has followed very closely the German text, and this, while in some cases it may detract from the smoothness of style, is rather an added advantage, as it preserves the detail of the original author. As the paper is long it will necessarily be continued through several numbers of the *JOURNAL*.

Proprietaries in Present Day Prescriptions.

"In the domain of science every fact is a legal tender." Publicity is essential to progress. In medicine secrecy stultifies the calling and its followers, making it the only learned profession of the age which, in so far, yet lingers in the embrace of the middle ages. Obviously no real therapeutic progress is possible where the prescriber and the world is informed only that the triumphant conduct of a certain case from death's door to convalescence has been wrought through the mediumship of "Puffer's Preposterous Painfugine," with the composition of which the enterprising manufacturer has not seen fit to entrust the complacent prescriber.

The present generation is skeptical and becoming more so; it stands in awe of nothing, and the reverential awe with which the layman formerly habitually viewed the physician is rapidly approaching the vanishing point, to which finality nothing is better calculated than this unethical and suicidal practice.

To revert to our proposed classification, considering the first journal at hand, we find advertisements of thirty reputable preparations, seven doubtful, eighteen semi-fakes, and thirteen positive fakes. A less liberal classification would more than double the latter number. Among the latter we find, in the body of an advertisement, a eulogistic notice from the pen of an eminent physician and medical professor, to the effect that he now habitually uses in certain cases lithia in the form of a new salt, the preparation in question. This case fairly illustrates our contention that therapeutic progress is not possible so long as secret medicines are countenanced by reputable physicians. Note this belauded preparation gets full credit, and incidentally the fakir full profit, for the cures which this eminent professor-physician claims as due to this new salt of lithia.—Prof. W. S. Jackman, of Orono, in *Journal of Medicine and Science*, Portland, Feb., 1905.